

PLATE CXI.

Balænoptera brydei.

- Fig. 6. Head of a large, but very thin and apparently sick, female specimen, with numerous wounds from parasites (*Pennella*). Durban, 15.11.12.
 7. Caudal portion, with the dorsal fin, of a male specimen.
 8. Female specimen, from the ventral side. Saldanha Bay, 12.3.13.

PLATE CXII.

- Fig. 9. Bristles of baleen from *Balænoptera borealis*, captured outside Saldanha Bay, -11.12.
 10. Bristles of baleen from *B. brydei*, captured outside Saldanha Bay, -11.12.
 11. Baleen from adult specimens of (A) *B. borealis*, and (B) *B. brydei*.

PLATE CXIII.

Balænoptera brydei.

- Fig. 12. Fœtus, 0.935 m. in length. Saldanha Bay, 12.3.13.
 13. Fœtus, 3.78 m. in length. Saldanha Bay, 12.3.13.
 14. Portion of body of same specimen as fig. 6, showing wounds from parasites (*Pennella*). Durban, 15.11.12.

EXHIBITIONS AND NOTICES.

October 28, 1913.

Prof. E. A. MINCHIN, M.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S. Vice-President,
 in the Chair.

THE SECRETARY read the following report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the months of May, June, July, August, and September, 1913:—

MAY.

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of May were 268 in number. Of these, 133 were acquired by presentation, 52 by purchase, 31 were received on deposit, 13 in exchange, and 39 were born in the Gardens.

The number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 185.

Amongst the additions special attention may be directed to:—

2 White-bearded Gnus (*Connochates albojubatus*), from British East Africa, new to the Collection, received in exchange on May 19th.

2 Chimpanzees (*Anthropopithecus troglodytes*), 1 Anubis Baboon (*Papio anubis*), from West Africa, and several small Monkeys, presented by W. O. Danckwerts, Esq., K.C., F.Z.S., on May 2nd, 28th, and 31st.

1 Crowned Duiker (*Sylvicapra coronata*), presented by Capt. C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., F.Z.S., on May 4th.

1 Pöppig's Woolly Monkey (*Lagothrix pöppigi*) and 1 Ocelot (*Felis pardalis*), from Mañaos, presented by Albert Reymond, Esq., on May 28th and 20th.

2 Naked-tailed Mice (*Uromys bruijnii*), new to the Collection, and 2 Sclater's Cassowaries (*Casuaris sclateri*), from S. Dutch New Guinea, presented by A. F. R. Wollaston, Esq., and C. Boden Kloss, Esq., on May 31st.

2 Himalayan Yellow-backed Sun-birds (*Ethopyga seherie*) and 1 Nepalese Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula nepalensis*), from the Himalayas, new to the Collection, purchased on May 29th.

2 Swainson's Blue Jays (*Aphelocoma sordida*), from Mexico, new to the Collection, purchased on May 26th.

1 Chestnut-faced Barn-Owl (*Strix castanops*), from Tasmania, new to the Collection, purchased on May 10th.

4 Mexican Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias lessoni*) and 2 Northern Boatbills (*Caucroma zeledoni*), from Mexico, new to the Collection, received in exchange on May 28th.

1 Gentoo Penguin (*Pygosceles papua*), from the Falkland Islands, presented by the Rt. Hon. L. Vernon Harcourt, M.P., F.Z.S., on May 6th.

3 Smooth-backed Zonures (*Pseudocordylus microlepidotus*), from S. Africa, new to the Collection, deposited on May 7th.

1 East African Scorpion (*Lepreus tricolor*), from Lake Nyanza, new to the Collection, presented by C. B. Blencowe, Esq., on May 20th.

JUNE.

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of June were 295 in number. Of these 144 were acquired by presentation, 35 by purchase, 56 were received on deposit, 15 in exchange, and 45 were born in the Gardens.

The number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 189.

Amongst the additions special attention may be directed to:—

1 Pudu Deer (*Pudu pudu*), from Chili, and 2 Patagonian Cavies (*Dolichotis magellanicus*), from Patagonia, presented by Albert Pam, Esq., F.Z.S., on June 2nd.

3 Pumas (*Felis concolor*), born in the Menagerie on June 13th.

2 Canadian Beavers (*Castor canadensis*), from Canada, received in exchange on June 5th.

1 Savanna Sparrow (*Passerculus savanna*), from North-East America, new to the Collection, purchased on June 18th.

1 Ceylon Mynah (*Acridotheres melanosternus*), new to the Collection, presented by Dr. P. H. Bahr, F.Z.S., on June 29th.

1 Golden-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes flavifrons*), from Brazil, new to the Collection, purchased on June 5th.

1 Condor (*Sarcorhamphus gryphus*), from Chili, presented by Albert Pam, Esq., F.Z.S., on June 2nd.

2 Crested Screamers (*Chauna cristata*), bred in the Menagerie on June 19th.

2 Sun Bitterns (*Eurypyga helias*), from South America, purchased on June 16th.

1 Kagu (*Rhinocetus jubatus*), from New Caledonia, presented by the Marquess of Tavistock, F.Z.S., on June 27th.

2 Spiny-tailed Skinks (*Egernia depressa*), from Australia, new to the Collection, purchased on June 10th.

A collection of Snakes from Sierra Leone including 3 Sooty Snakes (*Boodon fuliginosus*), new to the Collection, presented by Guy Aylmer, Esq., F.Z.S., on June 18th.

A collection of Snakes from India including 1 Forsten's Tree-Snake (*Dipsas forstenii*), new to the Collection, received in exchange on June 2nd.

2 Gopher Frogs (*Rana capito*), from North America, new to the Collection, received in exchange on June 2nd.

JULY.

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of July were 279 in number. Of these 119 were acquired by presentation, 46 by purchase, 21 were received on deposit, 37 in exchange, and 56 were born in the Gardens.

The number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 250.

Among the additions special attention may be directed to:—

1 Orang-Utan (*Simia satyrus*), from Borneo, presented by Marcus S. Abrahams, Esq., F.Z.S., on July 24th.

1 Small-clawed Otter (*Lutra leptonyx*), from India, presented by H. R. Taylor, Esq., F.Z.S., on July 25th.

1 Long-tailed Mouse (*Orizomys longicaudata*), 2 Elegant Opossums (*Marmosa elegans*), from Valparaiso, new to the Collection, presented by Walter Goodfellow, Esq., F.Z.S., on July 8th.

4 Capybaras (*Hydrochaerus hydrochaerus*), from Fray Bentos, Uruguay, presented by the Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd., on July 5th.

1 Grysbok (*Nototragus melanotis*), from Constantia, Cape Colony, presented by W. Lester, Esq., on July 29th.

2 Australian Flower-peckers (*Dicaeum hirundinaceum*), from Australia, new to the Collection, presented by G. A. Heumann, Esq., on July 5th.

1 Shoebill (*Balorniceps rex*), from the Sudan, presented by Lt.-Gen. Sir Francis R. Wingate, G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O., H.M.Z.S., on July 15th.

3 Seed-Snipe (*Thinocorys runicivorus*), from Chili, new to the Collection, received in exchange on July 24th.

2 Spinose Fence-Lizards (*Sceloporus spinosus*), 1 Graham's Snake (*Zamenis grahami*), from N. America, new to the Collection, purchased on July 22nd.

1 Bird-eating Spider (*Citharoseclus kochii*) ♀, 1 Bird-eating Spider (*Paraphysa manicata*) ♂, from Valparaiso, new to the Collection, presented by Walter Goodfellow, Esq., F.Z.S., on July 8th.

A Collection of Millipedes (*Archispirostreptus nitidus*), from Trinidad, new to the Collection, purchased on July 11th.

AUGUST.

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of August were 201 in number. Of these 122 were acquired by presentation, 15 by purchase, 14 were received on deposit, 7 in exchange, and 43 were born in the Gardens.

The number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 231.

Among the additions special attention may be directed to:—

1 Fettered Cat (*Felis ocreata*) and 1 Cheetah (*Cynelurus jubatus*), presented by Dr. R. E. Drake-Brockman, F.Z.S., 1 Caracal (*Felis caracal*) and 1 Cheetah (*Cynelurus jubatus*), presented by Capt. J. L. Berne, and 2 Cheetahs (*Cynelurus jubatus*), presented by Arnold Hodson, Esq., from Berbeia, on August 8th.

2 Indian Gazelles (*Gazella bennetti*), from Karachi, presented by A. C. Cooke, F.Z.S., on August 11th.

1 Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*), from Europe, new to the Collection, presented by R. Pearce Page, Esq., F.Z.S., on August 5th.

6 West-African Quail-Finches (*Ortygospiza atricollis*), from Gambia, new to the Collection, presented by Dr. E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., F.Z.S., on August 1st.

1 Spot-billed Toucanet (*Selenidera maculirostris*), bred in the Menagerie on August 11th.

2 Bornean Fireback Pheasants (*Lophura nobilis*), bred in the Menagerie on August 17th.

A collection of rare Reptiles from Sierra Leone, including a Black-collared Cobra (*Naja nigricollis*), a Blanding's Snake (*Dipsadomorphus blandingii*), and 3 Green Night Snakes (*Dipsadoboa unicolor*), all new to the Collection, presented by Guy Aylmer, Esq., F.Z.S., on August 2nd.

1 Hamadryad (*Naja bungarus*), from India, received in exchange on August 1st.

6 Pigmy Rattlesnakes (*Sistrurus miliaris*), born in the Menagerie on August 19th.

4 Müller's Xenopus (*Xenopus mülleri*), from West Africa, new to the Collection, purchased on August 7th.

1 Electric Cat-Fish (*Malapterurus electricus*), from Tropical Africa, new to the Collection, purchased on August 28th.

1 Scorpion (*Bathus hottentotta*), from Sierra Leone, new to the Collection, presented by Guy Aylmer, Esq., F.Z.S., on August 2nd.

SEPTEMBER.

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of September were 200 in number. Of these 109 were acquired by presentation, 21 by purchase, 7 were received on deposit, 26 in exchange, and 37 were born in the Gardens.

The number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 177.

Amongst the additions special attention may be directed to :—

10 Mouflon (*Ovis musimon*), from Sardinia, presented by H.G. The Duke of Bedford, K.G., F.R.S., Pres.Z.S., on September 16th.

1 Tigrid Cat (*Felis tigrina*) and 1 Three-toed Sloth (*Bradypus tridactylus*), from Colombia, presented by W. D. McDougall, Esq., on September 15th.

2 Variegated Agoutis (*Dasyprocta variegata*), 4 Woolly Opossums (*Philander laniger*), and 1 Sooty Amphibœna (*Amphibœna fuliginosa*), from Colombia, presented by Dr. H. G. F. Spurrell, F.Z.S., on September 13th.

1 Azara's Opossum (*Didelphys azaræ*), 1 Burmeister's Cariama (*Cariama burmeisteri*), and 1 Western Boa (*Boa occidentalis*), from Cordova, presented by Wilfred A. Smithers, Esq., C.M.Z.S., on September 16th.

2 Abyssinian Weavers (*Cinnamopteryx rubiginosa*), new to the Collection, received in exchange on September 7th.

1 Finch-like Cow-bird (*Molothrus fringillarius*), from Eastern Brazil, new to the Collection, presented by the Marquess of Tavistock, F.Z.S., on September 24th.

1 Brown-headed Parrot (*Perocephalus fuscicapillus*), from East Africa, presented by Lady D. Prain on September 24th.

2 Mikado Pheasants (*Calophasis mikado*), from Mount Arizan, Formosa, presented by Mrs. E. J. Johnstone on September 6th.

The SECRETARY exhibited a preparation of the alimentary tract of a young Elliot's Pheasant (*Phasianus ellioti*), dissected so as to show the gut-pattern in relation to the mesentery, blood-vessels, and visceral nerves. The preparation was mounted as a transparent object in glycerine jelly, and showed how the various morphological conditions of the intestinal tract to which he had called attention (Trans. Linn. Soc., Zool. viii. p. 173) might be displayed as permanent museum objects.

Young Woolly Opossums and Degus.

Mr. R. I. Pocock, F.R.S., F.Z.S., Curator of Mammals, exhibited a female and three young specimens of the Woolly Opossum (*Philander laniger*), from Buenaventura in Colombia, presented by Dr. H. G. F. Spurrell, F.Z.S., and drew attention

to the rapid growth of the young. When Dr. Spurrell captured the mother, the little ones were still in the pouch. Six weeks afterwards, when they reached the Gardens, they had left the pouch for good, were about one-fourth grown, and were just beginning to feed on their own account, though mainly dependent upon their mother's milk. In another six weeks—that is to say, three months after capture—they were three-fourths their mother's size, and apparently quite capable of fending for themselves.

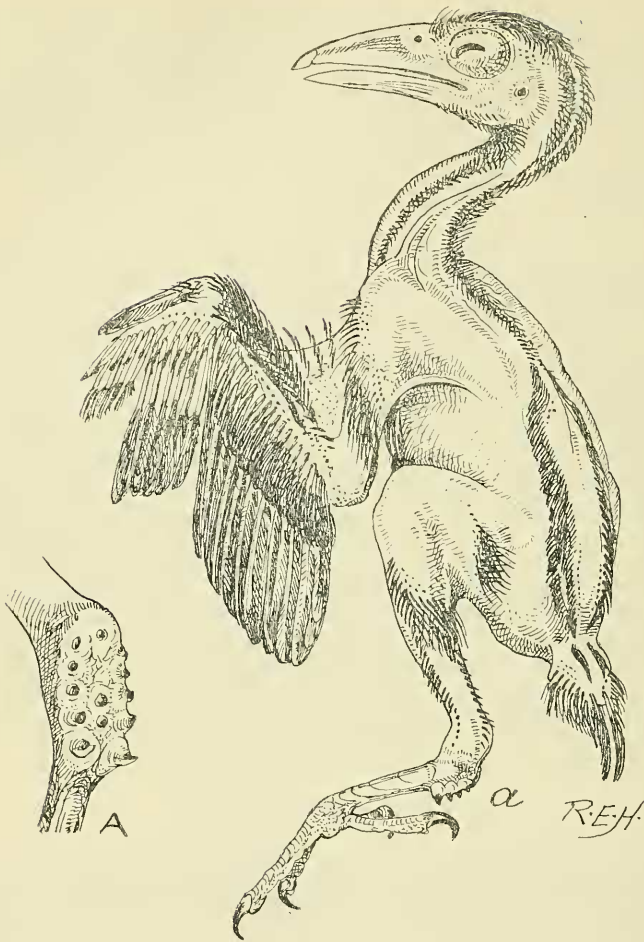
Mr. Pocock also exhibited two young examples of a Degu (*Octodon degus*), born from a pair from Valparaiso, presented by Mr. Walter Goodfellow, F.Z.S. The mother had a litter of four, but died from inability to give birth to a fifth. The little ones were fed by hand, and although two of them quickly died from pneumonia, the remaining two thrived and promised to do well. Like the young of all Hystricomorphous rodents, the Degus are of large size at birth and open their eyes within twenty-four hours, and are in every respect very precocious as compared with young rats. Particular attention was directed to the lateral position of the teats in the Degu, a condition which is repeated in the Viscacha and Chinchilla and the Coypu. This condition is probably an adaptation to the large size of the young, which are enabled to suck lying alongside the mother, so that they do not interfere with each other. In the Coypu, as first described by Owen, the teats are higher up the side than in the Chinchilla and the Degu, an arrangement which permits the young of that species, it has been alleged, to suck while swimming alongside their mother in the water.

Heel-Pads in young Toucanet.

Mr. D. SETH-SMITH, F.Z.S., Curator of Birds, exhibited a spirit-specimen of a young Toucanet (*Selenidera maculirostris*) (text-fig. 191) which had been hatched in the Society's Gardens in July, and called special attention to the well-developed serrated pads on the back of the ankle-joint or heel. This pad had been previously observed in the nestlings of Woodpeckers, Wrynecks, and Barbets, and it was only to be expected that it would be present also in the Toucans.

The use of this serrated pad, which disappears soon after the young bird leaves the nest, is doubtless to enable it to climb up the side of the hollow cavity in a tree in which it is hatched—these pads forming, as it were, a second set of claws. It is noteworthy that no such pads are found in the Parrots, which nest in similar situations to those chosen by Barbets and Toucans, but which are provided with a hooked beak which aids them in climbing.

Text-fig. 191.



Nestling of Spot-billed Toucanet (*Selenidera maculirostris*) showing feather-tracts and serrated pads (*a*) on metatarsal joint. A. Enlarged view of serrated pad.

A Deep-Sea Angler-Fish, MELANOCETUS JOHNSONII.

Mr. C. TATE REGAN, M.A., F.Z.S., exhibited a specimen of a remarkable fish, *Melanocetus johnsonii* Günth., that had been presented to the British Museum by the Hon. Walter Rothschild, F.R.S., and made the following remarks:—

“This curious fish has an enormous mouth armed with slender

pointed depressible teeth and an extraordinarily distensible stomach; it belongs to the order Pediculati and is a bathypelagic species, uniformly blackish in colour; like the Angler (*Lophius piscatorius*) it has the first ray of the spinous dorsal fin situated on the snout and modified into a line and lait; in this case the bait is a luminous bulb.

"The species is known from six specimens from the North Atlantic, three dredged at considerable depths by the 'Travailleur' et 'Talisman,' 'Valdivia' and 'Michael Sars' expeditions, and three in the British Museum collection. The last are from 3 to $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches long (from snout to end of caudal fin) and include the type described by Günther (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1864, p. 301, pl. xxv.) from Madeira: this had in its stomach a partly digested Scopeloid fish (*Lampanyctus crocodilus* Risso) about 7 inches long. The second specimen was taken at the surface in 31° N. and 37° W., and had in its stomach an almost perfect *L. crocodilus* nearly 8 inches long; this was captured by Captain Charles C. Dixon, master of the bark 'Elginshire,' who also secured the fish exhibited to-night at 7 A.M. on August 27th, 1910, in $40^{\circ} 19'$ N. and $42^{\circ} 25'$ W. By a strange coincidence this specimen also contains a *L. crocodilus*, and judging by the anterior part of the head, which is still visible, one about 8 inches long; it is curled round into a complete circle in the stomach of the *Melanocetus*.

"Captain Dixon writes that the *Melanocetus* was still alive when captured and that from his observations he believes that it could make the 'lure' luminous or not at will. The fact that it was caught early in the morning is interesting, for it is known that at night many fishes that dwell at a depth of 300 fathoms or more may approach much nearer the surface; here the large *Lampanyctus* may have been seized and its struggles may have brought the captor still further out of its depth and rendered it helpless."

November 11, 1913.

Dr. S. F. HARMER, M.A., F.R.S., F.Z.S.,
in the Chair.

Mr. E. G. BOULENGER, F.Z.S., Curator of Reptiles, exhibited a quite young specimen of the Matamata Terrapin (*Chelys fimbriata*), the shell of which measured but 5 cm. in length. This specimen, the smallest yet recorded, differed from the existing descriptions of the young of this species in the under surfaces being of a bright magenta-red instead of pale yellow. Mr. Boulenger suggested that as all the young previously described were more than double the size of the specimen exhibited, red might be the normal coloration of the under surfaces as a juvenile livery.

Hybrid Birds.

Mr. D. SETH-SMITH, F.Z.S., Curator of Birds, exhibited a remarkable hybrid (text-fig. 192) between a Black-winged Peacock (*Pavo nigripennis*) and a Domestic Hen (said to be a cross-bred

Text-fig. 192.

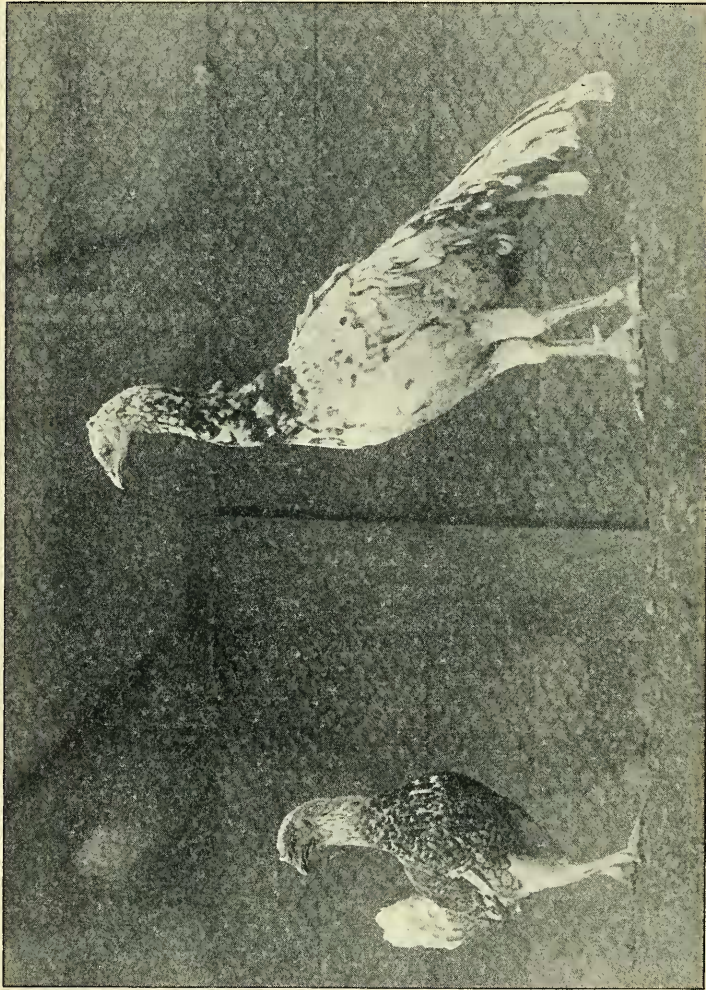


Photo. by D. Seth-Smith.

Hybrid Black-winged Peafowl, with its mother, a brown-and-white domestic hen.

game and Leghorn), which had been bred and presented to the Society by Mr. R. P. Wheadon of Ilminster. This bird was hatched in 1911 and is believed to be only the second example

of this hybrid ever produced, although hybrids between peafowl and guinea-fowl had been recorded. It was mostly white in colour, splashed, especially on the neck, with reddish brown, a colour derived from the domestic hen, its mother. It showed clearly the characters of both parents.

Mr. Seth-Smith also showed photographs, by means of lantern-slides, of a male hybrid Pheasant between *Calophasis mikado* and *C. ellioti* and of a male Jungle-fowl between *Gallus varius* and *G. gallus*.

The former had been bred in Sussex by Mrs. E. J. Johnstone, and kindly presented to the Society. It resembled a very dark-coloured Elliot's Pheasant, with the head and neck, breast, and abdomen black. The tail was black, suffused with chestnut and crossed with broad white bands.

The hybrid *Gallus*, which was one of several bred in the Gardens, was very intermediate between the two parent species. The comb was shaped like that of *G. varius*, but was slightly serrated, while the central wattle of *G. varius* was present though reduced in size, as well as the two side wattles of *G. gallus*. The neck hackles, which in *G. varius* are short and rounded, were in the hybrid moderately long as in *G. gallus*, but rounded at the ends, while the colour of these hackles as well as of the tail, was violet-purple. This bird appeared to be identical with that named *Gallus aeneus* by Temminck.

Dorsal Glands in Armadillos.

(Text-figures 193-195.)

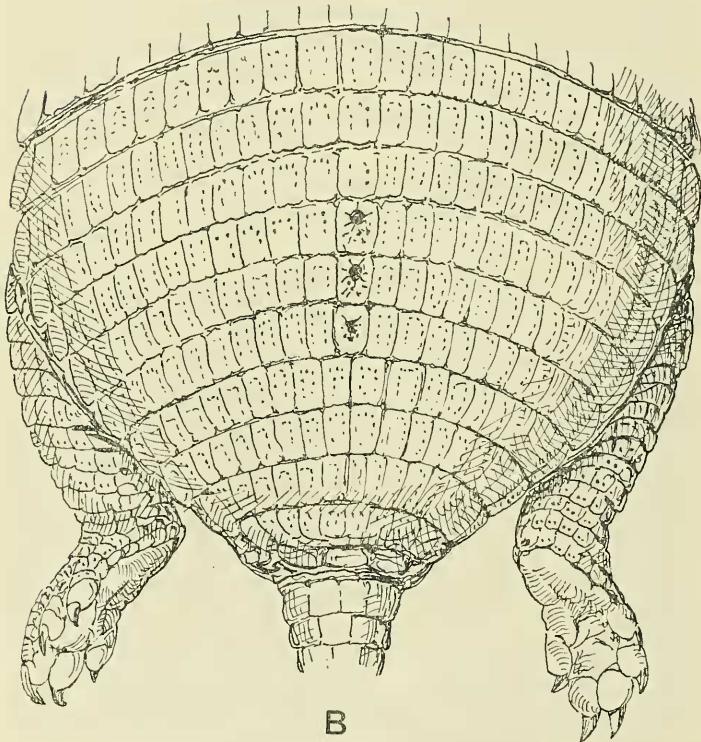
Mr. R. I. Pocock, F.R.S., F.Z.S., Curator of Mammals, exhibited some specimens of Armadillos of the genus *Euphractus** (formerly *Dasyppus*) to show the presence of a row of glands upon the pelvic portion of the carapace, and remarked:—"In the middle line of the pelvic shield there is an unpaired series of two, three, or four scars which are ill-defined in the living animal but tolerably conspicuous in dried skins and clearly marked when the scales are removed from the osseous scutes. Their conspicuousness in museum specimens cannot have escaped the notice of systematic workers, but apparently their significance has never been investigated.

"My attention was originally drawn to them by noticing that in newly born Hairy Armadillos (*E. villosus*) there are two or three small holes, one on the fourth, a second on the fifth, and sometimes a third on the sixth row of scutes of the shield in question. At this early stage the integument is unossified and can easily be cut with a razor. A section through the holes in question shows that they are the orifices of shallow pits directed

* According to Thomas, P. Z. S. 1911, p. 141, *Dasyppus* must be transferred to the Peba Armadillos, replacing *Tatusia*.

downwards and forwards and dipping into the dermis which is especially thickened and apparently highly glandular beneath

Text-fig. 193.



- A. Longitudinal section of the three glands in the newly born Hairy Armadillo (*Euphractus villosus*).
Ep., epidermis; *D.*, glandular thickened dermis; *O.*, orifice of pit.
- B. Pelvic carapace of the same showing the glandular orifices on the 4th, 5th and 6th belts.

them, the topmost layer of the thickening being marked with a few spots of black pigment. The glandular nature of the pits was readily ascertained in the case of living adult armadillos of

Text-fig. 194.

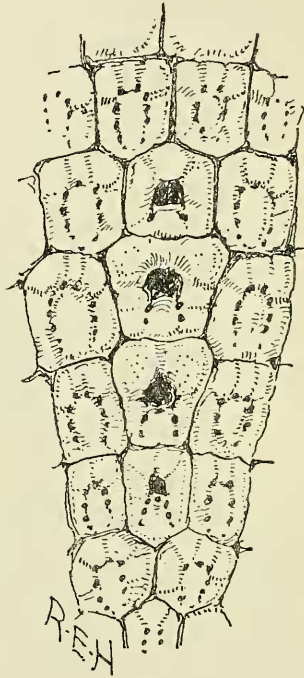


Photograph of part of the pelvic carapace of an adult living Hairy Armadillo showing the three glands on the 4th, 5th, and 6th belts. (The gland-bearing scute of the 6th belt was fractured and the pits being filled with secretion showed up more clearly than when dry.)

this species by squeezing the scutes bearing the scars and pressing from them drops of fluid with the same objectionable odour as

that which characterises these animals. Since the glands, judging from external appearances, are equally developed in adults of both sexes and appear at birth, there is no reason for thinking their function is in any way sexual. Their smell may be sufficiently nauseous to protect armadillos from enemies or it may act only as a guide enabling these animals to track each other and keep together.

Text-fig. 195.



Drawing of the central portion of the pelvic carapace of the Six-banded Armadillo (*Euphractus sexcinctus*) with four glandular pits, suggesting the origin of the pits from the enlargement and conerescence of the bristle-pores.

“ When the dorsal carapace of an armadillo is stripped, cleaned and dried, the position of the glands is marked on the under side of the pelvic shield by a row of bony prominences. Each prominence represents a gland and is in reality a hollow bony pit resulting from the ossification of the dermal layer immediately beneath the gland. This at all events is the case in a carapace of *Euphractus sexcinctus* kindly lent to me by Mr. R. E. Holding. In this specimen there are seven free rings behind the scapular shield, but the seventh is not so free as those that precede it.

Following this are nine rings fused together and constituting the pelvic shield. The median glandular pits are observable upon the third, fourth, fifth and sixth of these; and the scutes which carry them are distinguished by their shape from those of the rest of the pelvic shield. The glandular pit upon the sixth ring is much smaller and shallower than the rest and is especially interesting as showing the origin of the specialized glandular areas. The scutes of the carapace in this species are covered with pores, many of which are quite small; but a varying number, generally about ten and lying in two grooves, are much larger and arranged in two longitudinal lines meeting anteriorly and forming a somewhat horseshoe-shaped pattern. That these large pores perforate the bony scutes may be seen by holding the carapace against the light.

“According to de Meijere* these pores are bristle-pores and indicate lines of fusion between small and originally separated scutes. However that may be, there is no doubt, I think, that the glands above described result from the concentration and fusion of these rows of pores. The evidence for this is particularly strong in the case of the posterior of the four glands in *Euphractus sexcinctus* where the pores may be seen to be concentrated in the shallow central depression of the scute that bears them.”

November 25, 1913.

Prof. E. W. MACBRIDE, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., Vice-President,
in the Chair.

THE SECRETARY read the following report on the additions made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of October 1913:—

The number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of October last was 214. Of these 104 were acquired by presentation, 42 by purchase, 16 were received on deposit, 38 in exchange, and 14 were born in the Gardens.

The number of departures during the same period, by deaths and removals, was 237.

Amongst the additions special attention may be directed to:—

3 Entellus Langurs (*Presbytis entellus*), from North India, and 1 Wanderoo Macaque (*Macacus silenus*), from Malabar, presented by W. O. Danckwerts, Esq., K.C., F.Z.S., on October 14th and 24th.

1 Sclater's Dog (*Canis sclateri*), from the Amazons, purchased on October 2nd.

1 Mexican Tree-Porcupine (*Coendu mexicanus*) and 1 Peba

* De Meijere, Morphol. Jahrb. xxi. pp. 316, 318 (1894).

Armadillo (*Tatusia novem-cincta*), from Mexico, purchased on October 8th and 30th.

1 Dorsal Hyrax (*Dendrohyrax dorsalis*), from Sierra Leone, presented by Mrs. A. M. Bettington on October 7th.

1 Black-backed Hangnest (*Icterus mesomelas*), from Central America, 1 Loo-Choo Jay (*Lalocitta lidthii*), from the Loo-Choo Islands, and 1 Purple-breasted Parrot (*Triclaria cyanogastra*), from S.E. Brazil, all new to the Collection, received in exchange on October 27th.

2 American Harriers (*Circus hudsonius*) and 1 Mississippi Kite (*Icterus mississippiensis*), from North America, both new to the Collection, received in exchange on October 7th.

3 Pileated Guans (*Penelope pileata*), 3 Araucuan Guans (*Ortalis araucuan*), and 2 Rufous-necked Rails (*Aramides chiricote*), from Para, all new to the Collection, presented by the Goeldi Museum on October 20th.

2 Brazilian Tortoises (*Platemys platycephala*), new to the Collection, purchased on October 15th.

Prof. H. MAXWELL LEFROY, M.A., F.Z.S., Honorary Curator of Insects, briefly described the arrangement of the New Insect House, the progress made with the fitting-up of the interior, and the installation of and method of displaying the exhibits.

MR. R. H. BURNE, M.A., F.Z.S., showed some specimens of fetal skeletons prepared by the Beale-Schultze method. The fœtus after being dehydrated is soaked in 1-3 per cent. caustic potash, and finally mounted in glycerine. By this procedure the soft parts become almost completely transparent, leaving any calcareous deposit opaque.

The specimens shown were fœtuses of the Fowl, Horse, and Man. In the Fowl attention was drawn to the three separate metatarsals that at an older stage fuse to form the single tarso-metatarsus. In the same way in the Horse the ossifying shafts of the ulna, fibula, and splint-bones could be clearly distinguished.

A specimen of the skeleton of a Star-fish (*Asterias rubens*) prepared by the same method was also exhibited.
